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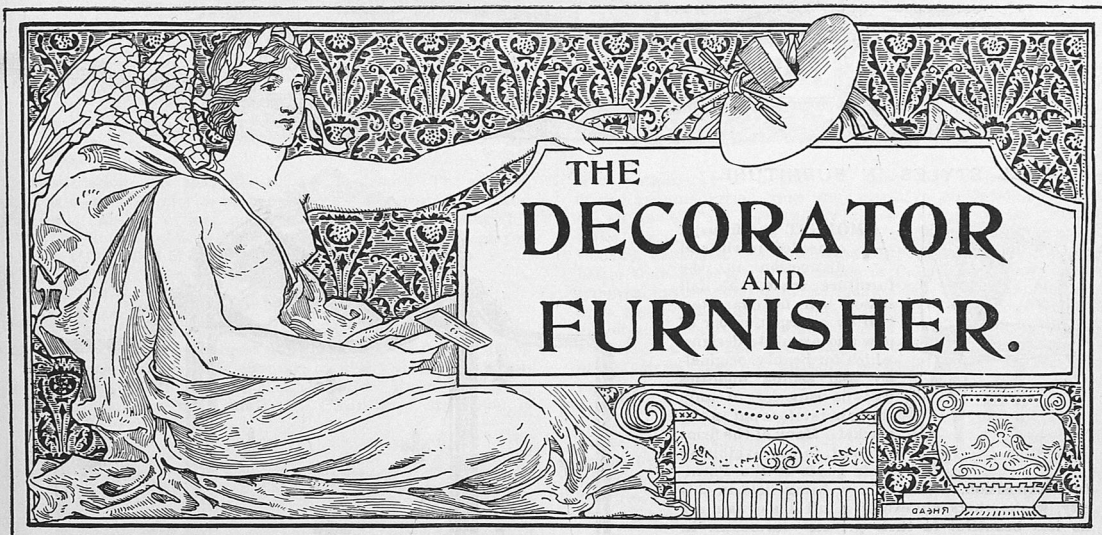
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THE Third Semi-Annual Exposition of the American Furniture Manufacturers will be held in this city from July 11th to August 6th, and from the list of the manufacturers who have made application for space at the Exposition, it is certain to be the most notable exhibit of furniture ever held in this country. The Board of Trustees have issued a very attractive souvenir catalogue illustrated by a large number of samples from the more important factories, accompanied by a description of the new designs in the various lines of furniture to be exhibited. The trade has never before been favored with such a comprehensive glance at the various lines on exhibition, and dealers will warmly appreciate the labor expended by the Board of Trustees in their behalf.

We, ourselves, in the present issue, describe and illustrate at some length, examples of the latest designs of goods produced by some firms that will not be exhibited at the Exposition, as well as those of firms who will make a fine showing thereat. Dealers having exhausted the possibilities of the Exposition should not fail to see the goods of the non-exhibiting firms herein referred to.

THE World's Fair buildings that are now being erected in Chicago are a decoration to the whole United States, and it is a matter of congratulation that the quadri-centenary of the discovery of America by Columbus should furnish the occasion for the erection of such noble lessons in decoration and refinement, for the country at large is certainly badly in need of it.

Amid the thousand and one suggestions for adding to the beauty and variety of the contents of these building, there is one which we think peculiarly fitting, and that is: that the Exposition should be provided with an immense bell of silver, larger and better than has been hitherto cast. The largest bell in the world is the great bell of Moscow, cast by order of the Empress Sophia, in 1653, and its weight is 198 tons. Reckoning silver by avoirdupois weight, as bell metal is reckoned, a ton of silver contains 32,000 ounces; this at ninety cents an ounce would be worth \$28,800. At this rate a bell of 300 tons weight would contain \$8,640,000 worth of silver, exclusive of the alloy that would be used to harden it. The government should manufacture the bell, and it would then be the possessor of the largest and most magnificent bell which the world has ever seen, and the silver could be put to actual use which must now be stored in another form. The government being obliged to buy \$4,500,000 of silver every month, a bell of this kind would require less than two months' supply, and hence its only cost would be that of casting.

Mr. H. S. Upson makes this suggestion in the *Cleveland Leader*, and remarks that the "Columbian chime might well endure to ring in the five hundredth anniversary of the immortal discovery, in 1492 and the anniversaries for many successive centuries to come."